



AMETHYST PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD

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SUMMER 1934...



IS
BACK!



THE ONLY WAY TO GET HIM
OFF A CASE IS...TO KILL HIM!

Don McGregor's hard-boiled private eye is on another violent case. *Film noir* realism in comics, as Gene Colan's gritty drawings come to life through new color techniques and full process separations.

A 4-issue mini-series for the direct market.

NATHANIEL DUSK II.

DC COMICS.



AMETHYST PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD

G-1804

I'M IN TIME—
THE ANCIENT ONES
HAVEN'T ATTACKED THE
GEMWORLD YET! BUT
WILL I BE ABLE TO
STOP THEM WHEN
THEY STRIKE?

"WHEN I CONSULTED THE
WELL OF VISION, ONE OF
THEM APPEARED TO MOCK ME!"

HOW NICE. THE
PRINCESS HAS
RETURNED TO
DEFEND HER WORLD.

HASTEN TO WHERE THE
SUN RISES, AMETHYST—
AND THEN WE SHALL
SETTLE THE SCORE!

ONCE THE GEMWORLD WAS ABSTRACT
MYSTIC ENERGY! THEN THE ANCIENT
ONES ALLOWED WITCH-MOTHER CITRINA
TO CREATE A WORLD—ONE THAT WOULD
LIVE ONLY AS LONG AS SHE SURVIVED.

IMPATIENT WITH CITRINA'S
LONGEVITY, THEY ENGINEERED
HER DEMISE. BUT AS SHE DIED
SHE GRANTED AMETHYST THE
POWER TO SUSTAIN THE GEM-
WORLD! NOW THE ANCIENT ONES
SEEK TO RECLAIM THEIR
PROPERTY!

Blackout

GARY COHN · ERNIE COLÓN & KARL KESEL · CARL GAFFORD · ROBUSTIN MAG · KAREN BERGER
WRITER ARTISTS COLORIST LETTERER EDITOR

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AND SOON, FAR OUT OVER THE EASTERN SEA...

BEHOLD THE SUNRISE, BROTHERS-- THE BIRTH OF A NEW DAY-- YET, THE LAST DAY FOR THIS WORLD!

BUT LOOK-- THE PRINCESS AMETHYST SEEKS TO OBSTRUCT US IN OUR TASK!

SHE WILL SOON LEARN THAT SHE SEEKS IN VAIN!

WOW! THESE CREATURES OF THE ANCIENT ONES ARE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL! I RAISED MY MYSTIC SHIELD JUST IN TIME!

AWAY, AMETHYST, LEST YOU WOULD HURRY YOUR OWN DOOM!

KA-BLASSST



THEY'RE CREATING SOME SORT OF MYSTIC SNARE... LIKE A WEB...

BUT WHAT DO THEY PLAN TO DO WITH...

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?



"NO! THEY'RE CASTING A SPELL OVER THE SUN—
LIKE FISHERMEN THROWING A NET!"

"OMGOSH! THEY'RE STEALING THE SUN!
I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!"

"THEY'VE SNAGGED IT AND THEIR WEB IS HOLDING FAST!"

AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT, PRINCESS?

STAY BACK—I DON'T WANT TO HARM YOU...!

YOU HARM ME! HA HA HA HA!

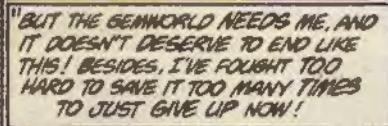
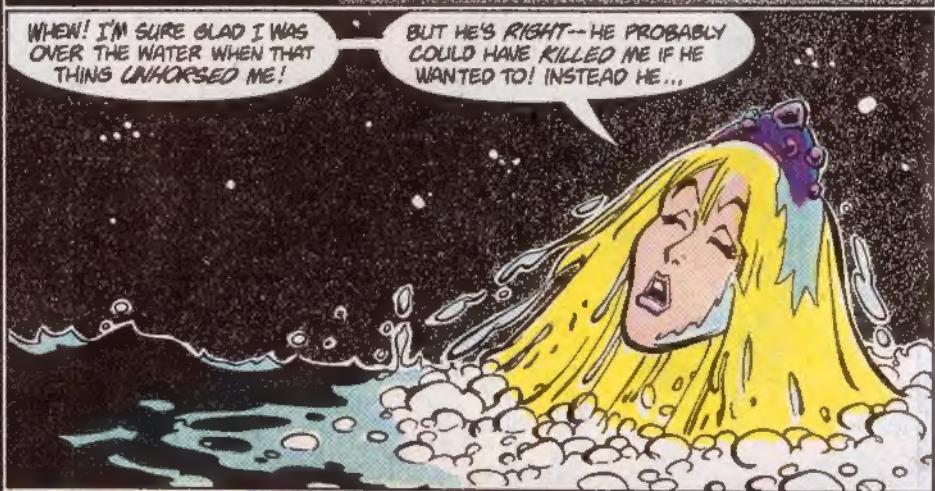
MY MASTERS INTEND TO FORCE YOU GEMWORLDERS TO ABANDON YOUR CLAIM TO THIS REALM! BUT YOU ARE A SMALL OBSTACLE TO THAT GOAL!

HOW LONG WILL YOUR PEOPLE WANT TO STAY ON THIS WORLD ONCE IT IS PLUNGED INTO ETERNAL DARKNESS?

NO, YOU CANNOT SAVE THE GEMWORLD, AMETHYST!

WHY, YOU CANNOT EVEN SAVE YOURSELF!

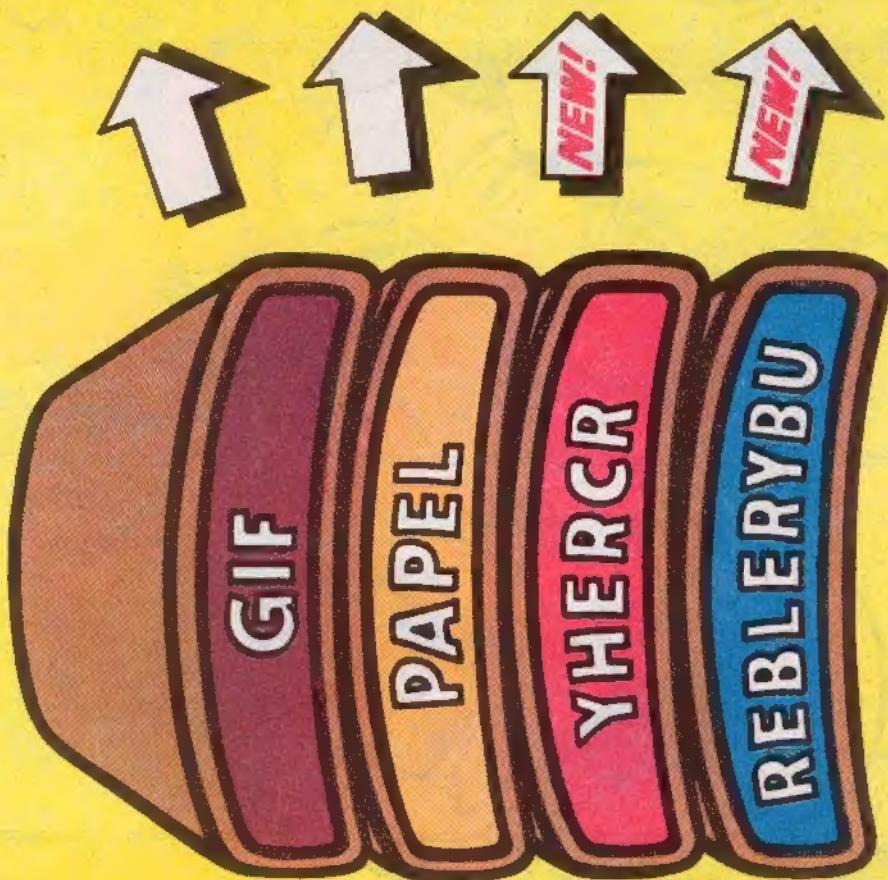
YAAAAHHH!



Newton's Fruit Chewy Mix-Up!



Answers: Fru, Apple, Cherry, Blueberry



Unscramble the letters on the left and fill in the Fruit Chewy Newtons flavors on the right!
HINT: there are two new flavors!

GIF

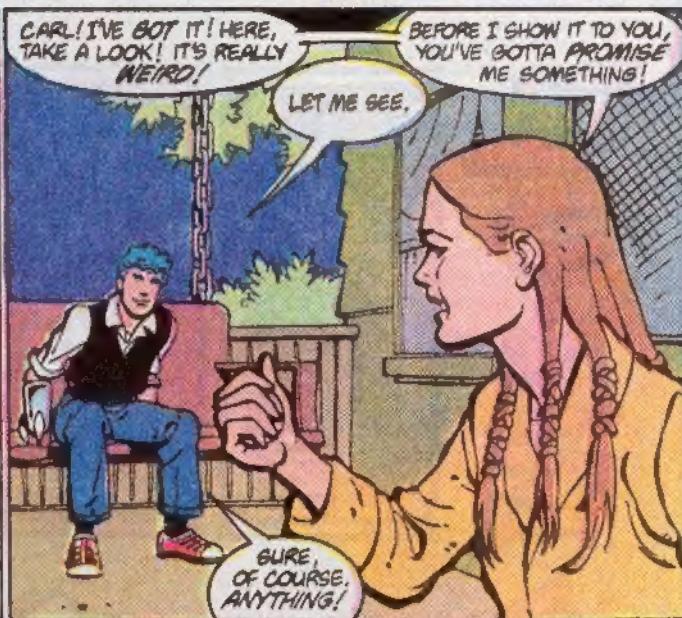
PAPEL

YHERCR

REBLERYBU

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MEANWHILE,
ON EARTH...



SO, RITA—YOU'VE
REALLY BEEN TO THE
GEMWORLD!

THEN YOU KNOW
WHAT MY FINE
LAND IS
LIKE!

YOU—YOU MEAN WINSTON WASN'T
JOKING—WHEN SHE SAID YOU'RE
FROM THERE?! I THOUGHT...

THEN THAT MEANS YOU MIGHT KNOW
WHAT THIS THING IS... WHAT IT
MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO...!

I—I'D BETTER PUT THIS AWAY...

YOU'LL DO NO SUCH
THING, GIRL! THAT CLASP
IS MINE BY RIGHT OF
INHERITANCE--AND I
WILL HAVE IT!

YOU CANNOT KNOW HOW LONG
I'VE CRAVED THIS OBJECT!
ONE SUCH AS YOU CAN
NEVER UNDERSTAND...

...BUT YOU WILL SEE! YOU'VE DONE
ME A GREAT BOON BY BRINGING
THIS TREASURE HERE—

--AND YOU CAN
BE CERTAIN THAT
I WILL REWARD
YOU!

NEVER FEAR, RITA—I DO KNOW
JUST WHAT THIS CLASP IS, AND
WHAT IT CAN DO--

--AND WE'RE
GOING TO HAVE
GREAT FUN!"

AND, ON THE
GEMWORLD...

ALL THIS RESOLVE TO
DEFEAT THE ANCIENT ONES IS
GREAT--BUT FIRST I'D
BETTER MAKE IT TO SHORE!

MY GOOD PET! YOU CAME
BACK FOR ME! YOU'RE AS
FAITHFUL AS MY
DOG, TAFFY!

I'M GOING TO NEED YOUR HELP, TOO.
I NEVER THOUGHT ANYONE COULD BE
POWERFUL ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY
STEAL THE SUN!

THIS ISN'T
GOING TO BE
EASY...

...ESPECIALLY SINCE
I'M EXHAUSTED.

EH...?
DID THEY SEND
SOMEONE TO KILL
ME AFTER ALL!?

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU
ARE, MISTER, OR WHAT
YOU WANT...

...BUT YOU'LL
FIND NO EASY
PICKINGS
HERE!

INDEED NOT.

OH, PRINCE
GARNET!
I DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE
YOU IN THE
DARK!

GREETINGS, PRINCESS!
I ARRIVED IN TIME TO
WITNESS YOUR FIGHT
WITH THE CREATURES
OF THE ANCIENT
ONES!

I THOUGHT OUR WORK WAS DONE
WHEN WE DEFEATED FIRE JADE,
BUT I WAS MISTAKEN!

I HAD NOT REALIZED
MY FORMER MASTERS WERE
BEHIND THESE CONTINUAL
THREATS TO THE
GEMWORLD!

ALAS, I
WAS TOO LATE
TO OFFER AID!

YOU'D
BETTER TELL
ME ALL YOU
KNOW ABOUT
THE ANCIENT
ONES, GARNET.



"MY TASK WAS TO HERALD THE END TO WORLDS, FOR THERE IS ALWAYS A TIME LIMIT, A LIFE SPAN FOR THE REGIONS IN THE SPACE OWNED BY THE ANCIENT ONES!"

"WHEN THAT TIME IS PAST, THE INHABITANTS OF THE DOOMED WORLD MUST DEPART! AND IF THEY WILL NOT..."

"...THEN THE OTHER AGENTS OF THE ANCIENT ONES PERFORM THEIR TASK!"

"I LOATHED THE BRUTAL DESTRUCTION, BUT I WAS POWERLESS TO AVERT IT!"



"SOMEHOW IT NEVER DAWNED ON ME THAT THE GEMWORLD WAS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE ANCIENT ONES... OR THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO RECLAIM IT!"



"...AND YOU KNOW YOU MUST DEFY YOUR FORMER MASTERS!"

"THEN LET'S GET ON WITH IT-- 'CAUSE I DON'T INTEND TO SEE THE GEMWORLD DIE!"



HUDSON UNIVERSITY,
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT:

PROFESSOR
WINSTON...?

PROFESSOR
HERBERT
WINSTON

HII! I'M GINA TONELLI--I'M
IN YOUR EIGHT O'CLOCK
CHAUCER LECTURE...?

SURE, GINA YOU SIT
IN THE FOURTH ROW,
RIGHT? WHAT
CAN I DO
FOR YOU?

MY NEW...?
I'M NOT SURE I
UNDERSTAND.

COME
ON IN--
DOOR'S
OPEN!

WELL,
I'VE WANTED
TO SPEAK TO
YOU FOR A WHILE
ABOUT YOUR NEW
LINE OF RESEARCH!

OH, COME ON! I KNOW WHAT
YOU'VE BEEN UP TO! I'VE
FELT THE EMANATIONS
FROM YOUR HOUSE!

MISS TONELLI,
I REALLY DON'T
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT!

DON'T BE COY WITH ME, HERBERT!
I'VE SEEN THE WAY YOU LOOK
AT ME IN CLASS--AND I
LOOK BACK, DON'T I?

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT
YOU MOST ATTRACTIVE--
THAT'S WHY I TOOK
YOUR COURSE!

I'M VERY
PLATTERED, BUT--

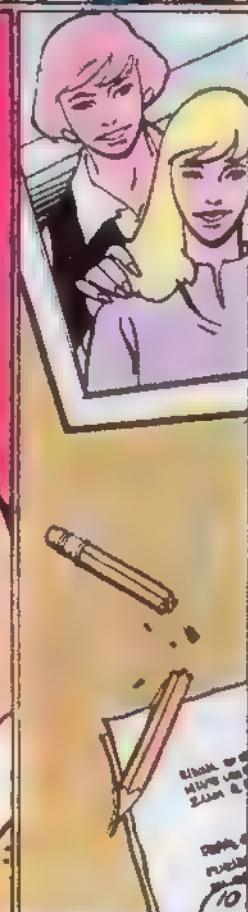
BUT NOW THAT
I KNOW YOU'RE
STUDYING MAGIC--
THAT MAKES YOU
ALL THE MORE
INTERESTING!

MISS TONELLI...
GINA...

YOU'RE
EXPERIMENTING
WITH GREAT POWER!
I CAN SENSE IT!
BUT THERE'S
DANGER!

I HAVE
CERTAIN...
KNOWLEDGE.
I CAN SHARE
IT WITH
YOU...

...IF
YOU'LL
LET ME!



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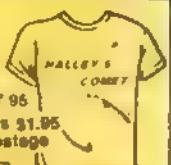
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ACROSS THE DARKENED
GEMWORLD THERE IS PANIC
AND DREAD. IN THE STREETS
OF THE CITADEL OF SAPPHIRE
THE PEOPLE CONVERGE,
CLAMORING FOR REASSURANCE

BUT FROM THE GREAT CASTLE
AT THE CENTER OF THE SQUARE
THERE COMES NO WORD.

AND WITHIN
THE PALACE .

I CANNOT REMAIN
HERE MUCH LONGER!
NO MATTER THAT I
WISH TO CONTINUE
MY COURTSHIP OF
THE LADY SAPPHIRE!

UNTIL SHE AND I
ARE TRULY BETROTHED,
MY FIRST LOYALTY
MUST BE TO THE
REALM OF MY
PARENTS...

YOU ARE
DISTRAUGHT,
PRINCE
MOONSTONE.

A FACT I
FEAR GREATLY
FOR US ALL!

COURAGE, MY DEAR!
THE GEMWORLD HAS
SURVIVED MANY CRISSES!
SURELY THIS ONE WILL
PASS, AS WELL!

BUT, IN THE
DIAMOND REALM,
SUCH OPTIMISM
IS NOT
MIRRORED!

GREETINGS, MY LORDS!
I KNOW YOU CRAVE WORDS
OF HOPE FROM ME - BUT
I CANNOT OFFER
SUCH WORDS!

THE PRINCESS
AMETHYST PURSES
THOSE WHO HAVE
STOLEN OUR SUN!

HAIL
PRIEST! WE COME
AS SEEKERS OF
KNOWLEDGE!

A BRAVE ALLY
ACCOMPANIES HER! YET,
SHE MAY FAIL. AND
IF SHE DOES...

...THEN WE
MUST PLAN FOR A
NEW MIGRATION, AN
EXODUS FROM OUR LAND!

FAR ABOVE, PERCHED IN THE CLOUDS--THE CITY OF WHITE OPAL. AND AT THE RULER'S CASTLE...

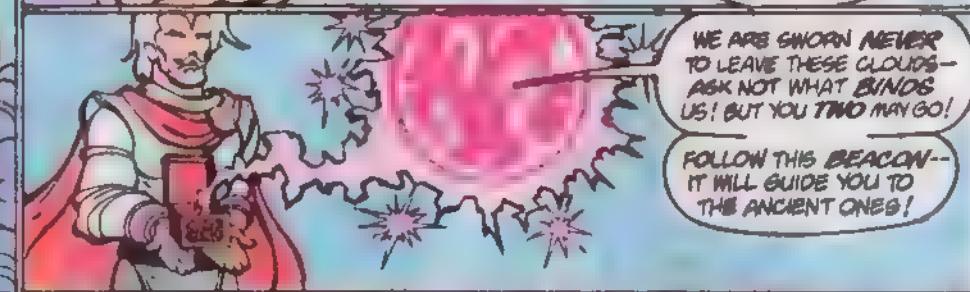
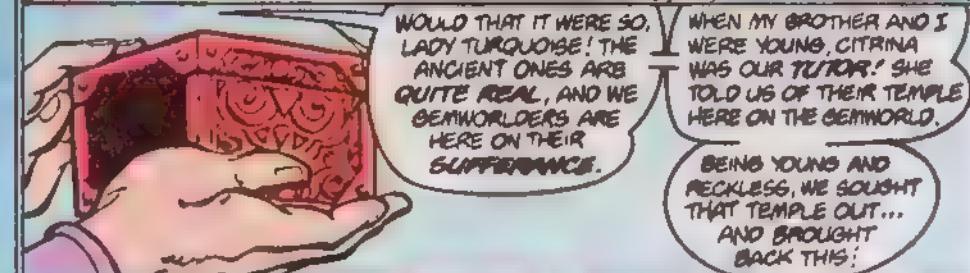
ONCE WE OF THE WHITE OPAL FLED TO THIS CLOUDLAND, HOPING TO ESCAPE FOREVER THE TRIALS OF THE GEMWORLD!

BUT THIS NEWEST CATASTROPHE TOUCHES US AS SURELY AS YOU GROUNDLINGS!

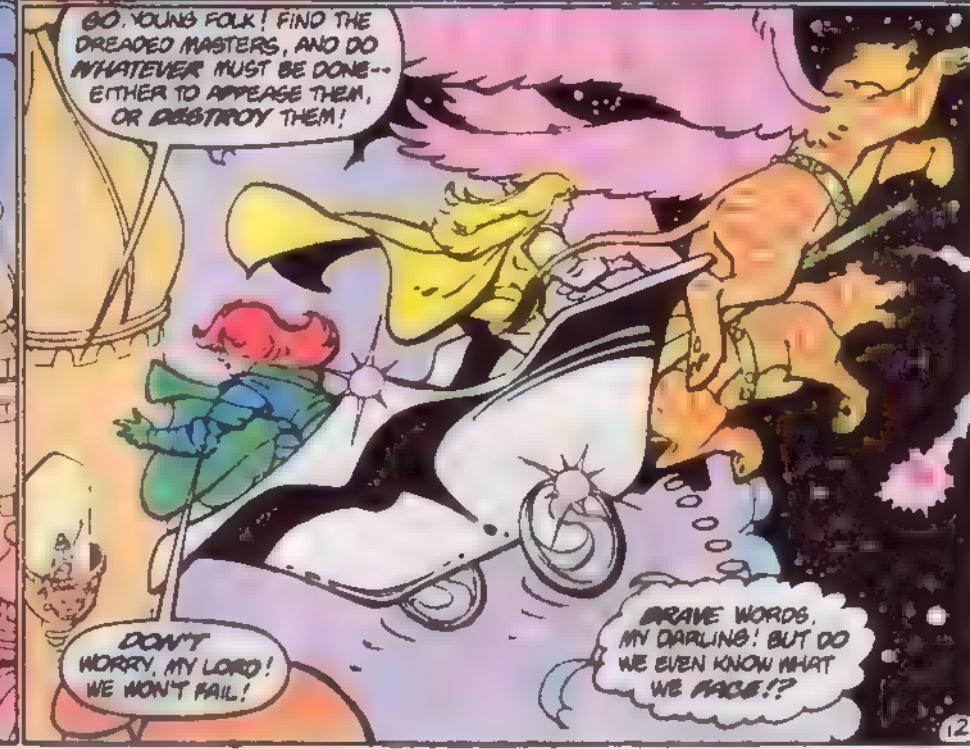
BUT WHAT COULD HAVE BECOME OF THE SUN, OPAL?



I HARBOR SUSPICIONS, PRINCE TOPAZ! HAVE YOU EVER HEARD TALES OF... THE ANCIENT ONES?



BEING YOUNG AND RECKLESS, WE SOUGHT THAT TEMPLE OUT... AND BROUGHT BACK THIS!



FOLLOW THIS BEACON-- IT WILL GUIDE YOU TO THE ANCIENT ONES!

GO, YOUNG FOLK! FIND THE DREADED MASTERS, AND DO WHATEVER MUST BE DONE-- EITHER TO APPEASE THEM, OR DESTROY THEM!

DON'T WORRY, MY LORD! WE WON'T FAIL!

DAVE WORDS, MY DARLING! BUT DO WE EVEN KNOW WHAT WE FACE??

MEANWHILE...

THESE FLAME-IMOS HAVE LIGHTED OUR WAY WELL, GARNET. THAT MUST BE THE TEMPLE YOU TOLD ME OF UP AHEAD!

WHEN LAST I STRODE THESE PEAKS THEY WERE RACKED WITH TREMORS!

BUT THOSE HAVE ARRESTED WITH YOUR RETURN, PRINCESS! YOUR PRESENCE HAS RESTABILIZED THE GEMWORLD!

AND IT WILL STAY THAT WAY EVEN IF I LEAVE AGAIN. ONCE WE OVERCOME THIS CHALLENGE, THE GEMWORLD SHOULD BE BACK TO NORMAL.

NOTE, AMETHYST! OTHERS APPROACH!

BUT WHO...? YOU SAID YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE ON THE GEMWORLD WHO KNOWS HOW TO FIND THIS PLACE!

"OH NO! IT'S TOPAZ AND TURQUOISE! WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?"

MY PRINCESS...! WE NEVER EXPECTED...

APPARENTLY, PRINCE TOPAZ, AND I AM NO LONGER YOUR PRINCESS!

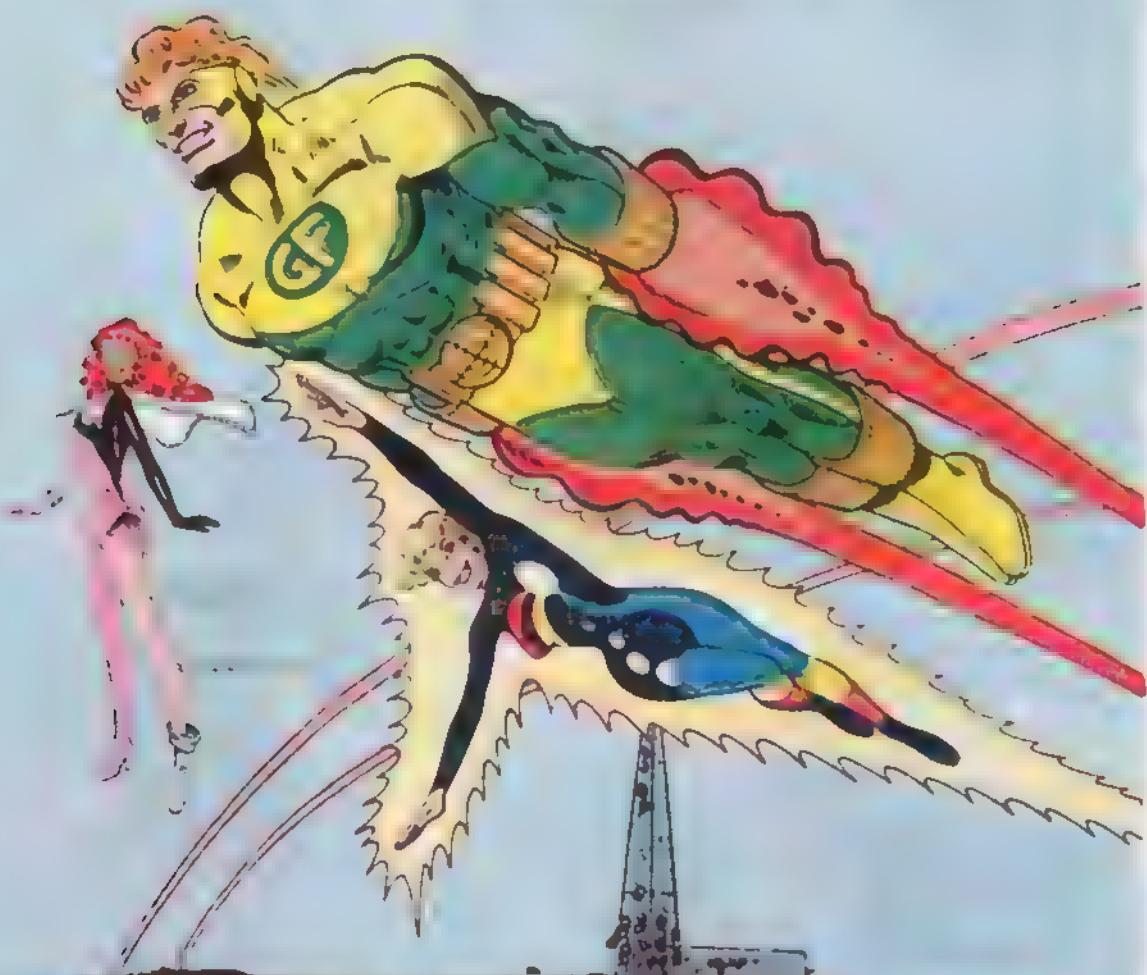
I DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAS OCCURRED BETWEEN YOU TWO-- BUT CLEARLY WE HAVE MORE PRESSING MATTERS TO ATTEND!

TELL US HOW YOU KNOW OF THIS MYSTERIOUS OUTPOST LATER, TRAVELERS.

FIRST, WE MUST BAND TOGETHER AND CONFRONT THE MASTERS THAT DWELL HERE --

-- BEFORE THEY CATCH US UNAWARES!

A new town, a new member, a new beginning!



HOLLYWOOD

COMICS

THE **OUTSIDERS**

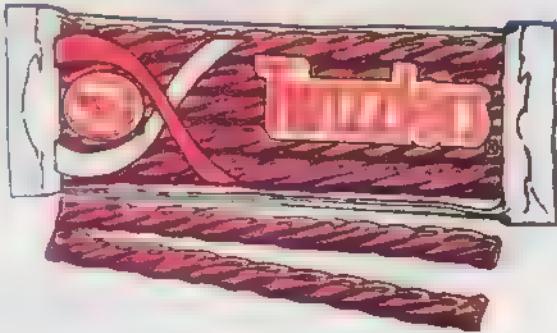
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"It's chewy and juicy and
yummy and fruity. And that's all
I have to say 'cause I'm going to
eat my Twizzlers candy now."



TOO LATE, GARNET--AND FOR THE REST OF YOU, AS WELL

WHY DO YOU PERSIST, AMETHYST? YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO DEFY OUR WILL!

THE GEMWORLD IS OURS TO DISPOSE OF AS WE WISH! BE GONE!

AH!

NOT ON YOUR LIFE, MISTER!

YOU DARE SPEAK OF RIGHTS? YOU WHO BREACHED YOUR BARGAIN WITH CITRINA AND BROUGHT ABOUT HER DEATH!?

YOU HAVE SOUGHT TO UNDERMINE THE GEMWORLD OVER AND OVER AGAIN, AND THAT HAS NOT BEEN YOUR RIGHT!

WELL, YOU CAN'T HAVE THIS WORLD--NOT WHEN I'M AROUND TO PREVENT IT!

DO NOT BE SO CONFIDENT, PRINCESS--

"--WHEN WE CAN WHIRL YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS A THOUSAND WORLDS AWAY AND LEAVE YOU THERE, TO DIE!"

ON YOUR GUARDS--MANY OF THE MYSTIC REALMS OF THE ANCIENT ONES ARE RELENTLESSLY HOSTILE!

AND IT APPEARS THEY HAVE FOUND JUST SUCH A WORLD FOR OUR EDIFICATION!



BEWARE, THE CREATURES
ATTACK!

AMETHYST CAN'T YOU RETURN US
TO THE GEMWORLD THROUGH ONE
OF YOUR PORTALS?

I DON'T KNOW, TOPAZ!
I'VE ONLY TRAVELED
THAT WAY BETWEEN
EARTH AND THE
GEMWORLD!

VICIOUS
LITTLE BEASTS,
AREN'T THEY?

CH-22

NOW
WOULD BE AN
EXCELLENT
TIME TO MAKE
THE ATTEMPT,
PRINCESS!

"...EARTH!"

BY THE
CRYSTAL OF MY
FATHERS!

I'M TRYING, TOPAZ!
THE GEMWORLD MUST
BE TOO DISTANT IN
METAPHYSICAL
SPACE! I CAN'T
LOCATE IT!

THEN WE
ARE LOST!

NOT
QUITE!

"I CAN'T FIND
THE GEMWORLD
FROM HERE—

...BUT MAYBE
I CAN FIND...

THIS IS MY ROOM! THIS IS WHERE
I LIVE WHEN I'M NOT ON
THE GEMWORLD!

THEN IT'S
TRUE! SHE IS A
MERE CHILD ON
THIS PLANE!

HYA,
TAFFY.

ROW
ROW

AND OUTSIDE THE
WINSTON HOME...

WONDER
IF HERB'S
BACK YET.

AFTER SUCH A HECTIC DAY AT THE
CLINIC, I COULD SURE USE SOME
HELP WITH THE COOKING.

WHY I PLANNED THAT
DINNER PARTY WITH
THE NELSONS
TONIGHT, I'LL
NEVER KNOW!

IT'S AMAZING,
AMETHYST --
YOU-YOU'RE
SO YOUNG!

AMY...? BUT WHO'S
THAT WITH HER?

HONEY,
WHEN DID
YOU GET.

SO IT
SEEMS,
TOBY.

...HOME...?

BEWARE, AN
INTRUDER!

YOUR
MOM...?

MOM, THESE ARE MY
FRIENDS FROM THE
GEMWORLD-- AND
I HATE TO BE SO
HASTY, BUT WE CAN'T
WASTE A MINUTE.

--AND, WELL... I'LL TELL
YOU ALL ABOUT IT LATER,
PROMISE, BUT WE GOTTA
GO AND FIND THEM, NOW,
OR ELSE THE GEMWORLD'LL
DIE!

--AND TURQUOISE,
YOUR POWER TO
HELP MAKE A
PORTAL!

OBVIOUSLY!
IT WORKED!
COME ON,
EVERYONE!

B-BYE?

YOU SEE, THESE
CREEPS CALLED THE
ANCIENT ONES STOLE
THE GEMWORLD'S SUN
AND THEN THEY SENT
US TO THIS WEIRD
PLACE--

A CHILD,
I CANNOT
BELIEVE
IT!

GARNET, WE
NEED A SPELL--

BE HOME
SOON, MOM!
BYE!

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INSTANTLY...

ALL RIGHT! WE DID IT--
THANKS TO YOUR CONJURING
BARNET

IT LOOKS SO
FANTASTIC--
LIKE SOMETHING OUT
OF STAR WARS!

THIS IS THE TRUE
PLACE THAT THE ANCIENT
ONES MAKE THEIR HOMES.
THE TEMPLE WAS JUST
ONE OF THEIR MANY
STATIONS.

WITHIN THIS VAST
STRUCTURE, I SPENT
MY BOYHOOD!

AND NOTE
WELL WHAT IT HOLDS
MYSTICALLY TETHERED:
NOW COMES THE TASK
OF LIBERATING THE
BEMWORLD'S SUN!

I FEAR ANOTHER TASK
PRECEDES THAT, FRIEND
BARNET! FOR IT
APPEARS...

...THAT THIS REALM
HAS ITS PROTECTORS!
STAND GUARD!

I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF DEFENSE, TOPAZ! I SAY IT'S TIME TO
BRING THE FIGHT TO OUR FOES!



IT'S TIME
TO...
ATTACK!



OPEN, DEMON, I HAVE
LONGED TO THROTTLE
YOU THUSLY!

NOW YOU WILL
PAY FOR THE
WORLDS YOU
HAVE DESTROYED!



NO, GARNET! THERE'S NO NEED
TO KILL THEM WHEN WE CAN BIND
THEM IN MYSTIC SNAres!



FEAR NOT FOR MY WELFARE,
AMETHYST! PRINCE GARNET'S
SWORD HAS MERELY FORCED
ME TO ABANDON MY
SHADOW FORM...

...FOR ONE MORE SUBSTANTIAL!
AND AS FOR THE TRAP THAT
CONTAINS MY BROTHER...



MY THANKS, COMRADE! NOW
LET US TEAR THE THROATS
FROM THESE UPSTARTS!



IT'S GOT TOPAZ!
WE'VE GOT TO
SAVE...

MISTRESS,
THERE'S A
BETTER
WAY!

HUNT WHO
SAID THAT?



AMETHYST IT ISI!

HOLY COW!
THE SUN'S TALKING
TO ME?!

VORMALLY I
COULD NOT--NOR WOULD
I NEED TO, WERE I
OBEYING MY NATURAL
COURSE!

MY CONSCIOUSNESS HAS AWAKENED
MISTRESS, AND I REACH OUT TO YOU
WHO SUSTAINS THE GEMWORLD!

GEE, MAYBE EVERYTHING
THAT'S PART OF THE
GEMWORLD HAS AN
AFFINITY FOR ME NOW!

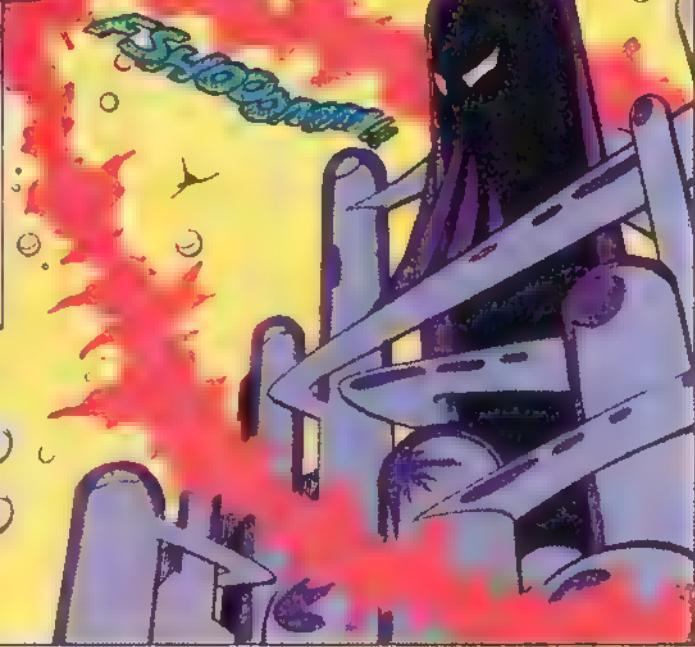
YES, PRINCESS! THAT
IS SO! YOU CAN USE
MY POWER AS YOUR
OWN!

THIS IS A MOST
REMARKABLE
DEVELOPMENT!
LEARN FROM IT,
AMETHYST!

I THINK--MAYBE THE ANCIENT ONES
HAVE REALLY MADE A BIG MISTAKE!
BY HOLDING THE SUN THEY'VE GIVEN
ME AN INCREDIBLE WEAPON!

AND I
CAN DO THIS
WITH IT!

AEEEEE! SHE
ASSAULTS THE KEEP
OF OUR MASTERS
WITH THE FLAMES
OF THE SUN!



AND NOW, SHE
ENSNARES US!

THIS TIME,
I FEAR...

...WE ARE UNDONE! SUCH
FORCES ARE BEYOND
OUR ABILITY TO
WITHSTAND!

AMETHYST--THE ANCIENT
ONES COMMAND--THAT WE
NEGOTIATE WITH YOU.

WE WILL BARGAIN
IN GOOD FAITH.

AT LAST! OKAY,
THEN, LET'S TALK.
BUT REMEMBER--ANY TRICKS
AND I'LL USE THE SUN
AGAINST YOU AGAIN!

AND NEXT TIME I WON'T
LET UP UNTIL YOUR ENTIRE
DIMENSION IS CINDERS!

"GOOD CALLS I
MADE. I FEEL
THIS FIGURED OUT!"

THE ANCIENT ONES CONSUME
THE MYSTIC RESOUCE FROM
DESTROYED WORLDS RIGHTS?

BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE
TO DO IT THAT WAY ONE
ENTIRE WORLD AT A
TIME WHEN THEY CAN
TAKE LITTLE BITS
FROM EACH OF THE
MANY WORLDS
THEY CAN
CLAIM TO!

THAT WAY
I'D BE KINDA LIKE
COLLECTING RENT"

"RENT"?

OF COURSE! I SEE! NO
WORLD NEED DIE, YET
THE ANCIENT ONES
COULD FEED
FOREVER!

"T'S A NEW
THOUGHT

IT'S A
GOOD THOUGHT
AND YOU REALLY
DON'T HAVE ANY
OTHER CHOICE

SHE BELEIVES US
DEFEATED. SHE STILL
KILLS NOT OUR TRUE
MIGHT. NOW THAT
WE ARE FREE

WE CAN BANISH
ANYTHING AND HER
ALIENS FROM THIS
REALM WITH BUT A
GESTURE!

RETIRE HOME SEPARATORS
AND OUR IDENTITIES
TO THIS TENEMENT."

WE'RE BACK WHERE IT ALL
BEGAN, PRINCESS!

AND IT'S
STILL DARK! WE'VE
FAILED!

PATIENCE, LADY TURQUOISE.
WE DO NOT KNOW THIS YET.
HAVE FAITH.

FAITH--AIA!
THERE ARE THINGS MORE
CONFIDENCE-INSPIRING
THAN THE ANCIENT ONES!

WHAT IF THEY DON'T
COMPLY, PRINCESS?

THEN WE'LL HAVE
TO FIND ANOTHER
SOLUTION.

WHAT OTHER
SOLUTION CAN
THERE BE--BUT
TO FIGHT!

I DO NOT
BELIEVE
THERE WILL
BE A NEED
FOR THAT.

"LOOK!"

IT'S THE
SUN! THEY'VE
RETURNED
THE SUN!

THE GEMWORLD
WILL LIVE! WE'VE
REALLY SAVED
IT AT LAST!





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MEANWHILE,
ON EARTH...

I SHOULDN'T
BE HERE, CARL! IT'S
TOO LATE--MY DAD LL
KILL ME!

YOU NEED
FEAR NOTHING FROM
YOUR FATHER, RITA!
YOU AND I SHARE A
DESTINY FAR BEYOND
SUCH PETTY CONCERN'S!

WELCOME HOME, NEPHEW.
SO NICE TO MEET YOUR
LOVELY GUEST.

OH!
WHO'S HE?

SURELY AMY
WINSTON HAS
MENTIONED MY
UNCLE ORVILLE?
I BUILT HIM IN
THE BASEMENT!

YOU WHAT!?! CARL,
I REALLY THINK
YOU SHOULD TELL
ME MORE ABOUT
YOURSELF!

WHAT MORE DO YOU
NEED TO KNOW? THAT
I HAVE CRAVED POWER
AND MAGIC ALL MY
LIFE, AND HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN
DENIED?

WE WILL RETURN TO MY LAND TOGETHER, RITA,
AND YOU WILL BE MY CONSOFT! FOR THERE
IS SOMETHING WITHIN YOU THAT RESPONDS
TO THIS TALK OF POWER!

YES--ALL THE HUMILIATIONS
HEADED ON POOR, WEAK
CARNELIAN WILL BE
AVENGED! I WILL
GO HOME--

KNOW THEN THAT
THE WORM HAS TURNED,
THAT GREATNESS IS IN MY
GRASP, THANKS TO YOU!
SOON ALL GEMWORLD
WILL TREMBLE BEFORE
CARNELIAN--THE
RED PRINCE!

--AND ALL
THE GEMWORLD WILL
BE MINE!

TO BE CONTINUED!

Opalelle Opal

L-2116



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Dear Purple People,

I just read AMETHYST #6 and all I can say is, wow. I bought the maxi-series, because I buy all #1's, and I kept on buying. The story, art, and everything is great. The art perfectly fits this type of a comic, and the plots are awesome. Really. The way everything works in the book brings a certain awe when one reads it. You are actually transported to the place where the events are taking place. Wonderful.

As for the current storyline, I think it's about time Sardonyx got an even break. He's a nice guy, but very weak. I still wouldn't trust him with my comic collection, but with all this chaos breaking out in the Gemworld, Amethyst is going to need all the help she can get.

Prince Garnet looks okay, but something still smells fishy about him.

Thanks again,

Mike Schwartz
120 Durand Road
Ellington, CT 06028

Garnet, fishy? Nah. Mysterious, maybe. Be sure to sit tight, though, 'cause next month we'll be finding out some of the many mysteries behind the men.

Dear Karen,

I'm telling you, you've really outdone yourselves with #7. "Shadows of the Past" is the best yet. (By the way, why does it say "Ghost Story" on the cover when that's not the title?) Speaking of the cover, the art and color were beautiful, especially Amethyst. She looks mature and very pretty.

I do have a complaint: Marion Winston. I'm sick of her. All she ever does is get mad at Amy. Number one, Amy really can't help going to the Gemworld. Even if she didn't, it's not up to her. Number two, Amethyst is needed there much more than Amy Winston could be.

The story couldn't have been better, except for that Topaz/Turquoise stuff. The least Topaz could do is talk to Amethyst one last time and not leave her hanging. I can see that you guys are already fed up with complaints about that, so I'll shut up.

I loved the ending. Bravo! Terrific! Keep 'em coming!

Toni Ann Scime, Age 13
86-5 Edgebrook Estates
Cheektowaga, NY

Sometimes the story title doesn't necessarily represent the cover art accurately, Toni Ann, so that's why you'll see

other cover "copy" used. As for Amy's sometimes unhappy mom, let's just say that Marion will be coming to terms with her unique daughter's life very shortly.

Dear Karen and company,

You want your magazine to sell well, and generate good will, don't you? You'd like to be liked internationally, wouldn't you? You'd like to retain diplomatic relations with Australia, wouldn't you?

Then stop downgrading the Opal!

The opal is the gemstone of Australia, which produces over 80% of the world's opals. The black opal, reminiscent of Dark Opal, is only commercially mined within Australia. Dark Opal, therefore, seems a slur on the whole nation. (Australia also produces a great amount of sapphire, which is sold to Thailand. Sapphire is also given a bad name, as I recall.)

One way to correct this balance would be for some person called Bright Opal to emerge and revitalize the House of Opal. This could be some long-lost branch of the Opal line on the Gemworld, or are you preparing Rita as the next Opal, perhaps descended from magicians who didn't leave Earth?

Now that I've expressed my deep regret over your choice of villain stone (couldn't you have chosen a non-precious gem whose house had overpowering ambition, i.e., coral or feldspar?).

Would you please explain your birthstone order. According to my sources, the Amethyst belongs to Pisces. Your Lord Aquamarine, who is too ruthless to be a true Pisces, is given that sign. Also, does astrology play a part in the Gemworld? (i.e. true Lords and Ladies have to be born within the sign of their house?) Is astrology just a relic from Earth that is unsuited to the Gemworld?

Lastly, what religions do the Houses follow? The House of Diamond, presumably from India, is the most spiritual, but they keep their beliefs to themselves. And is there a House of Pearl, the cultured gem?

Incidentally, I thoroughly enjoy AMETHYST, PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD. Don't let my complaints fool you. I've always enjoyed magic ever since reading about King Arthur.

Good luck,
Nick (no last name given)
Miranda Fair 2228
Sydney, Australia
Would you settle for White Opal, Nick?

He would not only balance the opal image "down under," but would also provide another much-needed positive force on the Gemworld. Little is known about the Dark Lord's good brother now, except that he took to the skies to escape the Gemworld's strife and cannot ever leave there. Stay tuned for more explorations into the sparkling kingdom of the clouds, its ruler, and its people.

To cover your other points, since Citrine and the original Gemworld inhabitants are from Earth, they brought their beliefs and studies with them in the Great Migration; astrology and "religion" obviously being in that mix. The only correlation we've established between the signs of the zodiac and the royal houses has pertained to Aquamarine, but we wouldn't rule that relationship as a given. Many, many years have passed since the creation of the Gemworld, and the general study of earth astrology is pretty much obsolete. As for religion, nothing has been etched in stone, but we tend to feel that the Gemworlders, by and large, aren't a very religious lot. But your question is provoking, so we'll work on doing something in that order in the near future.

Dear Ms. Berger,

Any suggestions for a new romantic interest for Amethyst? Sure. How about Prince Garnet? He seems like a nice enough fellow. And we have outgrown any "problems" that might bring up, haven't we?

By the way, a couple of other letter-hacks and myself have suggested an AMETHYST-BLUE DEVIL crossover to Alan Gold. I now officially suggest it to you. So, what do you think?

Signed,

John Henry Sain
2251 Kings Highway
Medford, OR 97501

We've talked about the possibility of doing an AMETHYST-BLUE DEVIL crossover, John, and when both books are cleared of their respective involved continuities, you just might be seeing

■■■

Dear Sir,

In issue #7 my respect for Emmy went up a couple notches after her showdown with the Winstons. She could have easily explained that Amy was sleeping in, after Emmy had to sing her

to sleep to end a bad spell of insomnia, or she could have excused herself and Amy by protesting that Amy could not voluntarily get a wink of natural sleep as long as Citrina was pulling at Amethyst. Instead, she faced the issue head-on, which took a lot of guts for a girl stranded all alone on a strange world, and having a roof over her head only through the kindness of the Winstons.

Emmy also brought up an important point that was heretofore obscure, when she argued Amy was only acting in accordance with what's in her blood and with how she was raised. We do not yet know everything there is to know about Amethyst's heritage, and we surprisingly know very little about Amy's upbringing. Just how much do we know about Amy Winston, really? It's been said she's a "good kid most of the time," who "can be very exasperating sometimes." The Winstons have been described as a happy and active household, albeit one that lost a beloved grandfather recently, and one that travels frequently in the summer, judging from Amy's references to Atlantic City, lobsters, and Disney's Magic Mountain. Amy herself seems fairly physically active, like in the Beckman pool room or gym class, though we don't know if she's a full-fledged jock in the Ronnie Raymond or Hal Jordan tradition. Her familiarity with lasers, Hercules, and Thomas Jefferson suggests a scholarly bent—and indeed her room features items like a bookshelf, typewriter, and wastebasket for any failed literary efforts.

I doubt the Winstons would have installed a phone on Amy's desk just to talk to her aunt or Rita, so Amy must be fairly popular. But what do we know of Miss Winston's values or goals in life? Does Amy's interest in Wonder Woman extend to no more than studying her bullets and bracelets and lassoing techniques on the six o'clock news? (Sad to say, the ideals of WW's mission seem to be overlooked nowadays.) For that matter, it's not yet clear why Rita is Amy's closest friend. Your future explorations into how Amy and Amethyst play off each other would be more meaningful if you dug more deeply into the background that shaped Amy, and what makes her tick.

Gary Thompson
3701 Roosevelt
Dearborn, MI 48124

Glad you raised the question of Amy's upbringing, interests, and talents, Gary. We've spent so much time dealing with Amethyst's adventures and problems that, unfortunately, a good look into Amy's life has been somewhat neglected. But have no fear, for we're rectifying that already, particularly in the following two issues.

Dear "Everyone,"

I didn't want to leave anyone out, so I hope "everyone" should cover it. AMETHYST is by far the most exciting, invigorating piece of work ever created! I was over my friend's house, and of

course he had the AMETHYST annual on his floor with a millennium of others. The cover caught my eye, and upon reading it, I (a person who quit reading comics when I was twelve) couldn't put it down. Now I have all the maxi-series issues and I'm only missing two of the new series.

Amethyst has been in me forever. She was like a dream come true. I often thought when I was younger, when other girls were playing with "Barbies," that I was in another world, and when I played, I always wore my Amethyst necklace. Now, reading AMETHYST, it stirs my memories, and pulls my thoughts to another world, where dreams really do come true. Amethyst is so well done, that when something happens to her, I am feeling her feelings. If she's happy, I'm happy. I have never read a comic before that has really gotten me "in" the story. I await your next issue.

Keep up the fantasy and reality. You're doing a superb job!

Wendy Schnitzius
Northeast, MD

We think the main appeal of Amethyst is the fact that she's living out many of our own fantasies, Wendy. We're sure many girls and boys once dreamed of being a princess or prince in a beautiful, magical land, when caught up in the splendor of reading fairy tales. I know I did, and that's one of the many reasons why I enjoy editing this book so much.

Dear Purple Prose,

After one annual and six issues, here's my first letter. Here are a few things I'd like to say.

First of all, I totally agree with Sara (issue #6) about Topaz and Amethyst. What in the Gemworld happened? I haven't seen him since issue #4, pages 18 and 19. Second, I know it's a bit late for this, but why don't you name the unicorn Topaz. I'm sure if he knew she named her unicorn after him, he'd go back to her. Please!

Finally, if that doesn't work, how about Amethyst falling in love with Prince Moonstone? By the way, the reason I love Amethyst is that my birthday is February 14th!

Heather Duncan
(no address given)

Don't know about naming the unicorn Topaz, Heather, but since you brought that flying critter up ... the moment you've all been anxiously waiting for is here! The winner of the "Name That Unicorn" contest is (drumroll, please) Derek Chatwood of Prescott, Arizona, for bestowing Amethyst's trusty companion with the name of "Max." We chose "Max" because amidst the swarms of magical, mystical, and poetic entries, we agreed with Derek's reasoning that since Amy's from "a normal, happy environment in downtown Earth, you can't expect her to call the unicorn something magical, or way out." And believe it or not, it just so happens that Amy's grandfather to whom she was

very close (she mentioned it is passing in issue #8 of the maxi-series) was named Max, too, so it's all the more fitting! Derek will receive an original piece of AMETHYST art by Ernie Colón and Karl Kesel, autographed by the book's entire creative team! Congratulations! And lest I forget, honorable mention goes to:

(in no particular order) Jenna Levine, Jenny Owens, Jim Raskell, Wendy Schnitzius, Brad Eddy, Stan Tychinski, Philip Wong, Lynette Owens, Rudy Carranza, Susan Anderson, Samantha Goddard, Donna Randall, Tony Greer, Michael Narren, Jacqueline Mahl, Rick Alsen, Michael Eric Dawson, Heidi Rounds, David Roberts, Lisa Melton, Ha Vu, Gary Thompson, Kirsten Guyaz, Keith Brown, Abigail Weller, Jason Wood, Jerry Guiggs II, Laura L. Asby, Sarah Cunningham, Lynn Tucker, Jenny Ruiz, Allen Cullum, Ilya Kornoelje, Paul K. Kho, David Alan Wright, Dan Donathan Sr., Joe Reynolds, Rob Hagiwara, Sara Sjoberg, Heather Smith, Nikki Seigla, Kevin Nicholson, Carrie Levine, Cam Rombach, Keith Drawbaugh, Stephanie Wolfe, Karla Hailer, George A. Williams, Suzanne Alexander, Chris Alexander, Jeff Arnold, Michelle Wehnrich, David Unger, Teresa Blauvelt, Wayne Beavers, Josh Katz, George Schneider, Pat Hagopian, Vincent Woo, Sue Sanders, Michael McArdle, Andy Sved, Steven Plagman, Derrick Pommey, Jodi L. Friedman, Pat Peters, Gabrielle Kee, Paul Deavelle, Casey Ruston, Jason Gerle, Noel Royer, Alex Miller, Bill Keeler, Chuck Birdwell, Robert Bollinger, Carrie Ann Sagar, Sandi Bibby, Jason S. Bynum, B.D. Dooneberry, Jack Warbow, Tina E. Mori, Melissa Barnett, Tanya Frickey, Lady Cat's Eye, G. Dunson, Heidi Schempp, Bernice Remmers, Sara Keating, Richard Corbin, Edwina Meadows, Tony Hartgrove, Chris Ohnesorge, Teresa Merrick, Deborah Sanger, Erin Powell, Jon A. Eberhart, Lisa Summach, Ray Sablack, Darrell Manthorne, Ron Ambs, Leeanna Crookshanks, Robert Summer, Pierre Robitaille, Wendy Green, Jenne Lentola, Patty Geary, Heather Duncan, Sara Bates, J. Balevi, Jeannie T. Koh, Chris Ferro, Christine Bloor, and last but not least, Daria Stockton.

Many thanks to each and everyone of you who participated in the contest and helped to make it a great success! But since the contest has ended, the mail for "Purple Prose" has dropped significantly. We're all dying to hear from you! So, please send us a line or three after you've finished reading an issue of AMETHYST, and tell us what you liked, didn't like, and would like to see. We try to print as many letters as possible, so make sure you get in on the fun! Okay? Okay!

NEXT MONTH: At last—Amethyst confronts Topaz and Turquoise as comic-dom's hottest love triangle comes to a boil! Meanwhile, Carl has Dark Opal's clasp in his greedy little hands, and the worst is just beginning! See you soon—Karen



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G U E S T

M E A N W H I L E . . .



A LIFE IN THE FUNNYBOOKS

by Roy Thomas

Twenty years is a long time. But in many ways, it only seems like yesterday.

So maybe it was.

Maybe it was only yesterday, instead of late June 1965, that a blond 24-year-old ex-high school teacher and sometime rock vocalist from southeastern Missouri stepped off a plane in New York City—and right into the middle of a taxi strike.

So there I was, my suitcase in one hand, my ostensibly portable electric typewriter in the other, and an ace-in-the-hole graduate fellowship to George Washington University in my back pocket—trudging down Lexington Avenue all the way from the bus depot, far, far away.

Though I was on my way to become assistant editor to the late Mort Weisinger on the Superman line of comics, I was no Man of Steel myself—and by the time I found out I had trudged a couple of blocks too far north and had to retrace my steps with my luggage, that spurned academic career in foreign relations was beginning to look better to me every minute.

'Twas all worth it, though. Those two weeks I worked at DC in summer of '65, I got to meet and chum around with so many people I'd idolized for years.

Guys like Julius Schwartz, Gardner

Fox, and the late Otto Binder, who had been pushing Weisinger to hire me, couldn't have been nicer or more supportive.

I still remember (though they have doubtless since forgotten) long after-hours chats with Joe Kubert and Murphy Anderson.

I even remember then-editor Bob Kanigher verbally assaulting me because I was a "fan," and some fan had recently referred to him as wearing a bow tie, something he vowed he had never done.

And if circumstances (including but hardly limited to my very real admiration for a writer/editor named Stan Lee a few blocks away) dictated that I reluctantly quit DC at the end of two weeks, it was not without a fond wish that someday, when the time was ripe, I'd be back.



It took fifteen years, during which time I had a reasonably successful career at Marvel both as a writer and as editor-in-chief. There are probably a few graybeards out there who remember my stints on *The Avengers* (the longest of anybody, ever) and *Hulk* and *The X-Men* ... oh, yes, and on the first ten years of a barbarian named *Conan*.

But eventually these things do come 'round, like the brass ring on a merry-go-round.

And so in late 1980 I rejoined longtime associates like Gerry Conway, Marv Wolfman, Len Wein, Dick Giordano, and others at DC. Hey,

and I even got to write stories about my favorite super-heroes of all time—characters like the Justice Society, Captain Marvel, and even (gulp!) the Marvel Bunny!



Of course, by now comic-books were no longer the only things on my proto-Midwestern mind. In concert with Gerry Conway, I was starting a screenwriting career which has seen eight screenplays sold, with more in the works ... and I'd met a redhaired soulmate named Danette Couto (now, I'm proud to say, Dann Thomas) more important to me than both careers put together.

Still, as I take stock after two decades in this crazy field, which is currently exploding outward in a hundred creatively promising directions at once, I marvel (excuse the term) at the good fortune and good friends I've enjoyed.

I've been allowed not only to explore new facets of the legendary JSA (in a mini-series and an upcoming graphic novel), but to create a new and ultimate World War Two super-group, the ALL-STAR SQUADRON.

I've had sword-and-sorcery fun with *ARAK, SON OF THUNDER* and cartoonish fun with *CAPTAIN CARROT*—and got to own a piece of both pies at the same time.

And *INFINITY, INC.* has given me a chance to explore what it might be like to be the offspring of some of the most famous and powerful beings on the face of the earth.



The future? Well, I'd like to think I've still got some good years, and some good stories, to look forward to.

Say, another twenty years' worth?

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- **Flash 350:** Double-sized final issue as everything gets resolved!
- **Superman 412:** Luthor's ultimate revenge convinces Superman the Earth no longer exists!
- **Star Trek® 19:** A special issue written by Walter (Chekov) Koenig!
- **Amethyst 10:** Once they owned the Gemworld—now they want it back!
- **Arak, Son of Thunder 49:** Will the sojourn in China be victorious?
- **Omega Men 31:** Elu faces extinction—while the other Omegans struggle with their new lives!
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